

Serial No.: 09/661,623

- 2 -

Art Unit: 3738

1. (Amended) An implantable prosthesis for repairing a tissue or muscle wall defect, the implantable prosthesis comprising:

a layer of repair fabric that is susceptible to the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the layer of repair fabric including a first surface and an outer peripheral edge with a thickness;

a barrier layer that inhibits the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the barrier layer being configured to inhibit the formation of adhesions between at least a portion of the first surface and adjacent tissue and organs; and

a peripheral barrier that inhibits the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the peripheral barrier extending across the entire thickness of the outer peripheral edge and about at least a portion of the outer peripheral edge of the layer of repair fabric to inhibit the formation of adhesions between the portion of the outer peripheral edge of the layer of repair fabric and adjacent tissue and organs.

<sup>22</sup>  
~~29.~~ (Amended) An implantable prosthesis for repairing a tissue or muscle wall defect, the implantable prosthesis comprising:

a layer of repair fabric that is susceptible to the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the layer of repair fabric including an inner body with a first surface and an outer margin extending from the inner body, the outer margin including an outer peripheral edge, each of the inner body and the outer peripheral edge having a thickness, the thickness of the outer peripheral edge being less than the thickness of the inner body, the entire thickness of the outer peripheral edge adapted to inhibit the formation of adhesions thereto; and

a barrier layer that inhibits the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the barrier layer being configured to inhibit the formation of adhesions between at least a portion of the first surface and adjacent tissue and organs.

<sup>30</sup>  
~~37.~~ (Amended) An implantable prosthesis for repairing a tissue or muscle wall defect, the implantable prosthesis comprising:

Serial No.: 09/661,623

- 3 -

Art Unit: 3738

B3  
Cand a layer of repair fabric that is susceptible to the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the layer of repair fabric including a first surface and an outer margin with an outer peripheral edge, the outer peripheral edge having a thickness, the outer margin having been melted and resolidified to render the entire thickness of the outer peripheral edge resistant to the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs; and

a barrier layer that inhibits the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the barrier layer being configured to inhibit the formation of adhesions between at least a portion of the first surface and adjacent tissue and organs.

54. (Twice Amended) An implantable prosthesis for repairing a tissue or muscle wall defect, the implantable prosthesis comprising:

B4 a layer of repair fabric that is susceptible to the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the layer of repair fabric including an outer margin with an outer peripheral edge having a thickness, the entire thickness of the outer peripheral edge being adapted to inhibit the formation of adhesions thereto, the outer margin being reinforced to form a bite region that is spaced inward of the outer peripheral edge for securing the prosthesis along the outer margin; and

a barrier layer that inhibits the formation of adhesions with tissue and organs, the barrier layer being configured to inhibit the formation of adhesions between at least a portion of the layer of repair fabric and adjacent tissue and organs.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 14-21 and 29-59 were previously pending in this application, with claims 1, 29, 37, 46 and 54 being independent claims. By this amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 46-53 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 29, 37 and 54 have been amended. These amendments are believed not to require a new search or require extensive consideration. As a result claims 1-7, 14-21, 29-45 and 54-59 are pending for examination with claims 1, 29,